

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification has been conformed to correspond to the preferred format for U.S. patent applications as required in the Office Action, and a Substitute Specification and Comparison Copy are submitted herewith.

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application.

Applicants note with appreciation that the claims have not been rejected over the prior art.

Claims 1 and 6-9 were rejected under Section 112 for a variety of primarily grammatical informalities. These claims were grammatically changed to eliminate the listed informalities.

The original claims 1-10 were further reviewed to eliminate all ranges within ranges and to make previously dependent method claim 7 and product claim 10 independent by combining them with the portions of claim 1 which define the spray powder.

Subject matter deleted from original claims 1-10 has been resubmitted as new dependent claims 11-14.

Finally, applicants have submitted a new independent claim 15 which addresses the invention somewhat differently from claim 1 and, amongst others, omits background limitations in claim 1 not deemed critical to its allowance. Substantively, however, new independent claim 15 is directed to the same invention addressed by claim 1. Thus, claim 15 is allowable over the prior art for the same reasons why claim 1 has been allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and request an early notification to that effect.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (415) 576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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